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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Argentina

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1. The director of an anti-Peron newspaper has brought out the fact that the democratic press in Argentina is at present suffering more suppression at the hands of the Government than the Communist press, and has offered his opinion as to the reasons.
2. President Peron, this source relates, is fearful of the results of the forthcoming elections in March, for he must win the election by a large majority. Only in this way can he be sure of changing the Constitution so as to operate without the legalities that bind him at present. Since this is the case, the source believes that Peron is more deeply concerned with the possible effects of democratic journalism than he is with the work of the Communist press. Communism is considered more a question of Argentina versus other nations, while the activities of democratic elements are an internal question. Peron is therefore cracking down on the liberal press at present to prevent the publication of anti-Government articles, satires, disclosures, propaganda, etc.
3. The source goes on to say, however, that Peron realizes that he could not hope to gain support from the outside world, particularly the United States, by citing his measures against the democratic press. He would, in fact, be censured for such actions. The source believes that to win outside support Peron will begin active campaigning against the Communist press in his own good time.

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